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NRO review(s) completed.

17 January 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Drone reconnaissance

1. At the 12 January meeting in Mr. Bundy's office on the aerial surveillance of Cuba it was proposed that drones be test flown over U.S. targets to test photographic and operational feasibility. We have investigated this with the JIC/NRO who are responsible for this project and they have forwarded the enclosed summary of the status of drone reconnaissance vehicles.

2. The Department of Defense is not inclined at this time to carry out any further testing of the photographic drones. This system has been extensively tested in the past, both from an operational and photographic point of view. NMIC has seen typical photographs, and Mr. Lundahl indicated to me that he believed that the photographic quality was very good and would be useful for their purposes. Additional tests are not needed in order to establish the photographic quality of this system.

4. In view of the present capability of this system, I would not recommend that any further test program be initiated. We now have an emergency capability with drones which could be used if this proved absolutely necessary.

Signed by

HERBERT SCOVILLE, Jr.
Deputy Director
(Research)

Att:

cc: DECI
Exec Dir

ILLEGIB

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O/DDR/HScoville:mh

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